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BACKGROUND OF GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

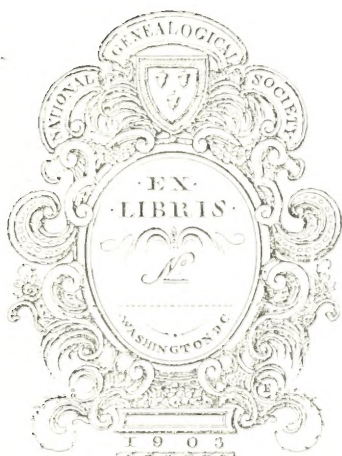
IN KENTUCKY AND INDIANA

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I

BY

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When the genealogist undertakes to identify the individual people who make up the dramatic personae of the picture of the past he finds a background already set for that thrilling panorama. No matter where the locale may be there are always two main elements that enter into the occupation of this background and from which the actors step forth in clear relief. These are the elements of geography and history. The former of these is, in the nature of things, fixed; the latter is more or less mutable according to extraneous circumstances, but into it the personages merge and of it they inevitably become a part. With whatever time or place the student may be concerned these facts hold true, but I know of no time or place where it is more graphically evident than in Kentucky and Indiana at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

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First let us consider the geographical element. By geography I mean, not only the location of certain places with reference to certain other places. I mean also all those factors of topography and climate that exerted such an irresistible influence in the movement of migration westward.

For nearly a century the motivating factor of this migration was the desire to reach the Ohio River, that vibrant artery of the nation which measured then, as it does today, more than one thousand miles from Pittsburgh to Cairo, Ill. Whether the emigrant from the north-east set out to reach this goal from Pennsylvania or Maryland; or the emigrant from the south-west started from the Carolinas or Virginia, each had a down stream route to

travel. The importance of this single fact can scarcely be over estimated when we consider that in the very beginning there were no roads of any kind. The only way to get from one place to another was to walk on foot or ride horseback through the unbroken forest unless one found a friendly stream whereon he could launch a boat of sorts and drift with the current.

A glance at the map shows that the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers take their rise respectively in western New York and Pennsylvania; and in the mountains of Western Pennsylvania and Maryland, and flow in a general way west till they unite at Pittsburgh to form the Ohio which flows, in general, southwest to its confluence with the Mississippi at Cairo, Ill. Between these two points the Ohio is augmented from the north by the Scioto, the two Miamis and the Wabash; from the south by the Kanawha, the Tennessee, Cumberland and Kentucky. Besides these there are innumerable smaller tributaries.

(1 Hulbert V.9 p.22). The earliest systematic exploration of this vast water system was undertaken as early as 1749 by a party of French from Canada under the leadership of M.Celeron de Bienville and the Jesuit Father Bonsecamps. They poled, paddled and portaged from the city of Montreal to the headwaters of the Allegheny. Then descended that river and the Ohio to the mouth of the Great Miami. Before all else, a Frenchman must be dramatic. This fact is strikingly evidenced by the manner in which these voyagers took possession of this extensive territory. There is something particularly thrilling to

recall that when they reached the mouth of a large stream, they buried a leaden plate, brought all the way from Montreal for that purpose; they nailed a tablet to a tree, and they stood out in the wilderness and proclaimed to God and the Universe that they thereby took possession of that river and all the land it drained in the name of the King of France and his nation.

In addition to the waterways, which were an aid to migration, there were the mountains which were a hindrance. The Blue Ridge and the Alleghenies had to be crossed or penetrated in order to reach those fertile areas that it was little more than guessed must lie beyond. Any motorist going over these same mountains today cannot fail to be forcibly impressed by the rich promise of fulfillment of the rolling and level farm lands of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. Because of the promise of the climate, the soil and the topography of that wide area which now constitutes those five states, the lineal ancestors of many of us were impelled to face and to surmount all the difficulties of mountains, wilderness and Indians in order that they might insure to themselves and their posterity not only a heritage of just government, but also that assurance of material well being that is derived primarily from the possession of a productive portion of the Good Earth.

The historical element of this genealogical background that we are talking about is concerned first of all with the distribution of land. Did John Smith buy his land from the Government or was it given to him or did he just "take up" land? How did he pay for it? How did he get to it? And from where did he come?

We have under consideration the states of Kentucky and Indiana. These two may be said to be fairly typical of the Old Southwest and the Old Northwest in so far as the early land tenures are concerned. (The Winning of the West V.I,p.26). Theodore Roosevelt has said "The way in which the southern part of our western country - that is all the land south of the Ohio and from thence to the Rio Grande and the Pacific - was won and settled, stands quite alone. The region north of it was filled up in a very different manner. The Southwest x x x x was won by the people acting as individuals or as groups of individuals who hewed out their own fortunes in advance of any governmental action. On the other hand the Northwest, speaking broadly, was acquired by the Government, the settlers merely taking possession of what the whole country guaranteed them."

With the single exception of Vincennes, which I shall consider later, the whole State of Kentucky was settled before any part of Indiana was opened to settlement.

(Filson Club Publication No.24). The boundaries of Kentucky were fixed by the charter of Virginia in 1609. Later the parallel 36°30' was established as the southern boundary, the Mississippi River the western and the Ohio River the northern boundary.

In 1768 Virginia bought from the Six Nations of Indians assembled at Fort Stanwix, N.Y., all of what later constituted her rights to western lands. True, she had to fight other Indians to keep those rights, but the Treaty of Ft. Stanwix marks

the earliest milestone in the settlement of Kentucky. In 1772, Fincastle County, Virginia, was erected out of part of Botetourt County. In 1777, the western part of Fincastle was cut off to form Kentucky County, Virginia. This county constituted, practically, what is today the State of Kentucky. After 1777 land grants appear as in Kentucky County, Virginia.

(Filson Club Publication No.11). In 1774 Col. Richard Henderson and Co. had purchased from the Indians land lying between the Cumberland and the Kentucky rivers and extending to the Ohio. This treaty was made at Fort Watauga on the Holston River and was largely due to the efforts of Daniel Boone. In order to facilitate the transportation of settlers from the older part of Virginia and from Tennessee and the Carolinas it was necessary to have a road of some kind, or at least to predetermine, as far as possible a route of travel through the vast, unbroken and Indian infested wilderness. With this and in view the Henderson Company employed Daniel Boone "to mark out a road from Ft. Watauga, through Cumberland Gap to the center of the newly purchased territory" (Filson Club Publication No.15) which was called Pennsylvania.

Before this (there is always a before-this even if we go back to Genesis, before which there was Nothing), before this there were Indian trails which followed the paths made by animals in their quest of pasturage and salt. Following these trails James Harrod (Harwood) in 1774 (Hulbert V.9,p.20) led 21 bold pioneers into what is now the heart of the Blue Grass

region of Kentucky. There he established the settlement named Harrod's Town, later Harrodsburg. This has been called "The Jamestown of the West". While living here George Rogers Clark conceived the idea of the conquest which has such far reaching results. It was from this immediate section that he chose the officers who accompanied him on this expedition. The State of Kentucky has built a replica of the original fort, surrounded by its stockade twelve feet high, and sheltering inside the log cabins furnished with crude furniture, where one may see today the historically interesting setting of the social and economic life of those first founders of our western civilization.

Meanwhile (almost simultaneously) Boone had "marked out" his road through Cumberland Gap, then via warriors' Path, on to Rockcastle Creek and to Boonsborough on the Kentucky River where a fort was built in 1775 (Filson Club Publication No.13. Also L.P.Summers p.278).

Boone was soon followed by Col.Benjamin Logan who charted a route through Cumberland Gap to Crab Orchard and Danville and built Ft. Logan which was one mile west of Stanford, the present county seat of Lincoln County.

These three forts, Harrodsburg, Ft.Logan and Boonsborough, were all important stations in the early days of western migration. It was because of the protection which these little stockade refuges gave that the settlements of Lexington, Bardstown, Louisville, Danville and many others became possible. Both Boone's and Logan's routes were called Wilderness Road.

In his monograph on the Wilderness Road in that fascinating series on "Historic Highways of America," by Dr. Archer Butler Hulbert, the author says "Taking everything into consideration, no distinct movement of population in America, before or since, can compare in magnitude with the burst of immigration through Cumberland Gap between 1775 and 1790. x x x x Between 1790 and 1800 the population of Kentucky jumped from 70,000 to 220,000". This unprecedented movement was the direct consequence of the Treaty of Ft. Stanwix and the marking out of Boone's road. (John Wilson's History of Ky., 1784). Another important immigration route was from Philadelphia via Lancaster, Martinsburg, Winchester and Staunton to join the Boone road on the Holston River. Two early itineraries (Hulbert V.6 p.122) of these roads give the distances from Philadelphia to the Falls of the Ohio (Louisville) as 825 miles; and from Hanover, Virginia, to Harrodsburg as 555 miles. Many volumes have been written on these and other early routes of migration. There were the National Road, Braddock's Road, Zane's Trace, Forbes Road. Over any of these your ancestors may have found their way from East to West.

One gets a picture of the difficulties of travel over these early highways by the following extract from the diary kept by one William Calk who made the journey over the Wilderness Road in 1775. (Wilson Club Publication No.2). "I turned my horse to drive before me and he got scared ran away threw down the saddle bags and broke three of our powder gourds and Abrams beast burst open a wallet of corn and lost a good deal and made a turrable

frustration among the rest of the horses. Drake's mair ran against a sapling and noot it down we caught them all again and went on and lodged at John Duncan's."

And who were these valiant pioneers who went on and kept going on and on through the wilderness?

(winning of the West V.II p.116) To quote Theodore Roosevelt again, "Up from 1763 the Kentucky immigrants came from the backwoods of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina and were almost precisely the same character as those that went to Tennessee. x x x At the close of the Revolutionary War Tennessee and Kentucky were almost alike in population. But after that time the population of Kentucky rapidly grew varied and the great immigration of upper class Virginians gave it a peculiar stamp of its own."

(Old Virginia and her Neighbors V.2 p.394). On the same subject John Fisk, in speaking of the Scotch-Irish (i.e., those Scotch who had lived in Ireland not more than three generations) says "between 1730 and 1770, I think it probable that at least half a million souls were transferred from Ulster to the American Colonies, making not less than one sixth part of our population at the time of the Revolution. x x x x Those who went to Pennsylvania received grants of land in the western mountain region. The policy of the Government was to interpose them as a buffer between the expanding colony and the Indian frontier. Once planted in the Allegheny region, they spread rapidly and in large numbers toward the southwest along the Mountain country through the Shenandoah Valley and into the Carolinas. At a later time they formed almost the entire popula-

tion of West Virginia and they were the men who chiefly built up the commonwealths of Kentucky and Tennessee. Among these Scotch-Irish were the Breckinridges, Alexanders, Lewises, Prestons, Campbells, Pickenses, Stuarts, McDowells, Johnstons and Rutledges; Richard Montgomery, Anthony Wayne, Daniel Boone, James Robertson, George Rogers Clark, Andrew Jackson, Thomas Benton, Samuel Houston, John Caldwell Calhoun, Stonewall Jackson. It was chiefly Scotch-Irish troops that won the pivotal battle of King's Mountain, that crushed the Indians of Alabama, and overthrew Wellington's veterans of the Spanish Peninsula in that brief but acute agony at New Orleans".

From a very early period it had been the policy of Virginia to reward her men who performed military services by giving them large grants of land. This was done by the process of issuing warrants upon the authority of which a militia-man, or ex-militiaman, would take possession of land wherever he found some to his liking that was not already pre-empted by some one else. Such land was called Bounty Land. This practice was not conducive to clearness of title and led, in time to come, to endless disputes. The first land occupied under this system was along the rivers and the parcels taken up were far larger than one settler could cultivate. Thus were founded such large estates that slave labor became apparently a necessity.

The records of the early land grants in Kentucky are to be found in the works of Willard M. Jillson, published by the Filson

Club of Louisville, Ky. (No. 42, Ky. Land Grants, 1782-1924 and Records from State Land Office at Frankfort, Ky., Va. Land Grants 1782-1792). Before 1782 records are in Richmond, Va.

A record of many land title disputes is to be found in Litell's Statutes of Kentucky, to which there is published in a separate volume a genealogical index by W.T. Smith.

After all, the Treaty of Ft. Stanwix was only another treaty with the Indians. It did not carry much weight in the courts of Europe. However, as early as 1758 the British had succeeded in taking away from the French the whole of the Ohio Valley which up to that time the latter had held by virtue of the leaden plates of Céleron de Bienville. By the proclamation of 1763 the British Colonial Secretary gave to Virginia all of the land south of the Ohio River and on to the Tennessee River. At the same time this same Colonial Secretary proclaimed that there were to be no white settlements north of the Ohio. The extremely naive reason given for this ukase was that the mother country wished to curb the "roving disposition" of the colonists, especially the Virginians. The real reason was that the mother country wished to preserve the fur trade for the benefit of the home treasury. The consequence of this policy was that from 1768 to 1785 the Ohio River was the western boundary of the colonies. The north bank was called the "Indian side" which was forbidden to white settlers while Virginia and Kentucky were being populated by tens of thousands.

The colony of Virginia claimed land extending as far west as the Mississippi. By reason of this claim, in 1778, Governor

Patrick Henry authorized George Rogers Clark to capture from the British the forts at Kaskaskia and Vincennes. The events of this campaign and its ultimate results form one of the most thrilling chapters in the whole saga of the beginnings of this Nation. In a letter to George Rogers Clark written July 2, 1783, by Governor Benjamin Harrison of Virginia, he said: "Before I take leave of you I feel myself called upon in the most forcible manner to return to you my thanks and those of my council for the very great and singular services you have rendered your country in wresting so great and valuable a territory out of the hands of the British enemy, repelling the attacks of their savage allies and carrying on successful war in the heart of their country."

The country in fact captured by George Rogers Clark comprised all of what now constitutes the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. At the close of the Revolution, Great Britain recognized the claim of the United States to this vast area and the Federal Government constituted therefrom the Northwest Territory. Jurisdiction over this Territory was vested in a Governor and four judges who held court in different places at different times. Shortly after this establishment became effective, all of the older colonies ceded to the Federal Government their rights to lands and jurisdiction in this Territory with three exceptions: i.e., the Western Reserve, held by Connecticut; the Clark Grant, held to satisfy land warrants of George Rogers Clark and his officers and the Virginia Military District,

held by Virginia to insure to her soldiers river bottom land north of the Ohio in case that south was not enough to supply the demand (Bond).

Thus it becomes evident that the land of the Northwest Territory became available for distribution directly by the Federal Government. This was an entirely different situation from what had previously existed when the separate colonies had given grants.

In colonial times it had been the policy of the British Government to use the public lands primarily to replenish the public treasury. With this end in view large grants had been sold to companies or individuals who, in turn, resold it to prospective settlers. When the Northwest Territory became available for distribution, our own Federal Government began by following this same policy. Ohio was the first State to be set up in the new Territory. Very soon it became apparent that, although the company plan did bring in ready cash, it did not satisfy the need of bringing into the wilderness actual settlers and homemakers. Besides it led to interminable confusion of land titles. As a consequence of the experience thus gained Congress passed the Land Ordinance of 1785 which was the basis of future land distribution. This was followed by other ordinances as their need became obvious and by 1800 a system had been worked out whereby the land was surveyed and divided into sections, townships and ranges of 36, 360, and 3600 acres, respectively. These parcels were sold at auction with a minimum price, to begin with, of one dollar an acre. This price was payable in either



Continental Certificates or in military warrants.

To the actual settler this last provision was a very great boon. But it soon led to most undesirable speculation on the part of agents who bought up these certificates and warrants and by this means bought large holdings of choice lands which they resold to actual settlers at a much higher price. Because of this practice the genealogist must beware of depending too implicitly on a land title in tracing a man's movements.

One must be sure that the man himself bought land for which he held a warrant. The fact that John Smith held a warrant for a survey of a certain piece of land was not proof by any means that he ever saw that land, much less that he ever occupied it, even though the land was purchased by virtue of that warrant.

The Land Ordinance of 1787 pledged that there should be made from the Northwest Territory not fewer than three nor more than five states and that there should not be slavery in any of these states.

On July 4, 1800, Indiana was set off as a separate State. At that time it included Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. In 1805 Michigan was set off and in 1809 Illinois and Wisconsin. This left Indiana as it now is except for the gore in the south-east corner. When the Northwest Territory was first divided, Ohio was bounded on the west by a line starting at a point opposite the mouth of the Kentucky River, running thence to Ft. Recovery and from there due north to the Canadian line. This boundary was called the Old Indian Boundary because it had been

determined at the treaty of Greenville with the Indians. In 1802 the starting point of this line was shifted to the mouth of the Miami River thus moving the eastern boundary of Indiana farther west and adding to the gore. The records of original land purchases in this gore are to be found in the Cincinnati land office and not in the Jeffersonville office as might be expected. All records of original land purchases are now in the U.S. Land Office but the books there are separate for the different original offices.

In 1800 the population of what now constitutes Indiana was 5,641. At the same time that of Kentucky was 220,955. In 1810 Indiana had increased to 24,520. From 1810 to 1820 it increased to 147,178, an increase of 500%. In the next ten years it increased 125%. From 1820 to 1840 the population of Indiana doubled.

The genealogist's interest is primarily in finding out who these people were who swarmed over the mountains and down the streams in search of fertile fields. They were Scotch-Irish from Virginia via Kentucky; they were Germans from Pennsylvania who came either "over the mountains" through Ft. Cumberland or they came through Pittsburgh and down the Ohio on keel boats; they were French from Canada and later they were English from the New England states.

However interesting these group movements may be (and they are intensely so when traced to their source) if one is seeking a particular individual or family he must go to more detailed

sources of information. Sometimes their sources may be found in the social institutions these diverse elements of colonization brought with them. The Scotch-Irish were Presbyterians; the Germans were Lutherans; the French Canadians were Catholic. However at a very early date the Baptist denomination gained a strong foothold in Kentucky and the Methodists were equally dominate in Indiana. The church records of none of these Protestant groups can be depended upon for very much aid to the genealogist. Records may have been kept by some preacher here and there but the church as a whole did not emphasize the practice. The Catholic records are more systematic. Those at Vincennes begin with April 21, 1749. **1825784**

The early newspapers do, however, afford a plentiful supply of information about the social life of the communities which they served. The first paper (Pa.Mag.of Hist.& biog.V.64,p. 416) published in the West was the Kentucky Gazette, established at Lexington in 1787. There are many notices and news items in the old papers that contain information of keen interest to the genealogist.

Under the rule of the Governor and Judges in the Northwest Territory the marriage law (LawS. of Ind.Territory 1801-1809) required the banns to be ~~published~~ read fifteen days before the ceremony which was performed by either a minister or a judge. The bridegroom must have attained the mature age of seventeen years and the bride fourteen. In case they were minors their parents' consent had to be given.

After Indiana was established as a Territory a licence became necessary. Divorce laws were enacted as early as 1808. In the Indiana Register April 2, 1824, we find the following notice: "Attention. All Persons are hereby forbid trusting or harboring my wife, Ruth Byers, late Ruth Martin, who has left my bed and board without any cause or provocation. Samuel Byers". Divorces were also granted by special act of the Legislature.

From the Kentucky Gazette of Jan. 21, 1792, we take the interesting news: "A large company will start from Crab Orchard early on the morning of the 2nd inst. thro' the Wilderness. It is expected all will meet well armed. On the same day a company will start from Stevens Station on Paint Lick Creek which will be 15 or 20 mi. nearer Lexington to Colinses Station on Rock Castle than by Crab Orchard".

The complications of a land title may be judged by the following from the Kentucky Herald March 12, 1799: "For sale, 1000 acres of Military Land. On Pond River, entered and surveyed in the name of John Cobbs, and patented in the name of Peter Smith, on which John Knight now lives. This tract will be sold for cash, or good land Northwest of the Ohio. For terms apply to Benjamin Stout at Lexington, or to Peter Smith near Columbia, Northwest Territory."

As early as 1792 mail routes (Bond p.278) were established from the East to the West. One of these was from Philadelphia through Bedford to Pittsburgh and the other from Richmond via

the Wilderness Road. The early newspapers contain long lists of letters remaining unclaimed in the local post offices. One wonders whether the person addressed had moved or whether he thought the letter was not worth the postage he would have to pay to get it out of the post office.

Strange as it may seem, there was no law in Indiana which required a civil record of a birth prior to 1881. At that time a law was passed requiring such a record to be kept by the county Board of Health. Since 1907 the State Board of Health keeps birth records. Limited mortality statistics are available after 1850. These are available in the State Library at Indianapolis.

In Indiana there were at least three communities which hold especial interest to the genealogist. The settlement first named New Switzerland, now Vevay, Switzerland County, was founded by John James Dufour and his associates, John Francis de Siebenthal, Jean Daniel Morerod, J. Phillip Battens, Daniel Dufour Blanc and John Francis Dufour. A complete history of this settlement is to be found in "The History of the Swiss Settlement in Indiana" by Perret Dufour, published by the Indiana Historical Society. Also for the genealogical material on this and other parts of the southeastern section of the State I refer you to a History of Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland Counties, Indiana, published in 1885 by Weakley, Harraman and Co., Chicago. There is a copy of this work in the D.A.R. Library.

A second very interesting community of Indiana is New Harmony. This was first a 40,000 acre tract of land bought by George Rapp of Pennsylvania whereon he located a religious community. Later this whole establishment was sold to Robert Owen. Under Owen's most able leadership New Harmony prospered for several generations as a communistic, or at least a co-operative settlement. It was made up mostly of Welsh and English who have left their mark of a high order of intellect on the whole State of Indiana to this day. Owen was one of the framers of the constitution of Indiana which was one of the earliest states to recognize the equal property rights of women. The State is now restoring some of the original buildings of this settlement to be preserved as an historical monument.

Perhaps the most interesting settlement in Indiana is the first one, - Vincennes. Originally this was merely a post for fur traders from Canada. But gradually the French men either brought their women from Canada or took unto themselves Indian wives. First they gave allegiance to the King of France. Then quite easily and gracefully they shifted to British rule. And, when George Rogers Clark came with his bedraggled army, they were willing to recognize his authority. After the Revolution they were equally complacent in accepting the new Republic. All they asked was to be allowed to work out their own problems in their own way, wrestling with the wilderness and the Indians as they had been doing to their own satisfaction. But the Land Ordinances of the new Congress did not make any allowance for



people who were considered mere squatters. The history of their struggle with Congress to get their land titles confirmed without having to pay for the land forms a most interesting chapter in local history. The records of this struggle are to be found in the annals of Congress, particularly the third session of the first Congress. These annals contain a vast deal of grist for the genealogist's mill. There are petitions and memorials signed by individuals and groups of individuals. Finally Congress decided to confirm all titles to land in this district without cost to the squatter, providing he or his heirs could prove that he had actually occupied the land prior to 1793. This necessitated the investigation of each case separately. In this connection, in 1790, Winthrop Sargent, acting Governor of the Northwest Territory, made a report to Congress embodying the names of all the heads of families who had occupied and improved their land before 1793. This list contains 140 names, as follows:

Joseph Andrez
Louis Alare
Francois Brouillet
Vital Boucher
Francis Baroy, Jr.
Marie the widow of
Louis Boyer
John Baptiste Binette
Anable Baulon
Charles Bonneau
Charles Bergand
Michel Bordeleau
Niclaus Baillarion
Michel Brouillet

Francois Bosseron
Francois Baroy, Sen.
Antoine Bordeleau, sen.
Louis Brouillet
Louis Boyer, Junr.
John Baptiste Cardinal
Francois Coder
Pierre Cornieyer
Joseph Chabot
Antoine Cuty
Francois Compagnot
Jacque Cardinal
Joseph Chartier
John Charpentier

Louis Coder	John Baptiste Hangan
Jacob Charbonneau	Pierre Mallette
Pierre Cartier, Sen.	Antoine Mallette
Antoine Drouette	Andrez Monplesiir
John Baptist Daboie	Louis Meteyer
John Baptiste Duchesne	Francois Minie
Charles Deille	John Baptiste Milliet
Charles Delisle	Nicolaus Mayot
Pierre Daigneau	Francois Maillet
Antoine Danys	Joseph Mitchol
Louis De Laurecier	Antoine Marier
Jean Baptiste de Laurecier	Frederick Mahl
Honnorez Danys	Joseph Mallette
Charles Dandevoir	John Baptiste Moie
Amable Delisle	Michael Neau
Jaque Denye	John Baptiste Guilette
Joseph Ducharme	Joseph Perodeau
Bonaventure Derogier	Guillaume Poyas
Niclaus Ditard	Pierre Perret
Francois Derause	Amable Perron
Louis Elline	Pierre Quenez, Sen.
Joseph Franklin	Jean Baptiste St. Marie Racine
Jean Baptiste Joyale	Pierre Renges
Paul Gamelin	Francois Racine
Charles Guiselle	Pierre Andrez Racine
Tousaint Guder	Louis Ravalet
Antoine Gamelin	Louis Roussault
Pierre Gamelin	Joseph Raux
Amable Gaurguipis	Joseph St. Marie
Alexis Astruse Gallionois	Joseph Sabolle
Pierre Gilbert	John Baptiste St. Aubin
John Baptiste Harpin	Etienne St. Marie
Joseph Hunot, Sen.	Francois Turpin
Etienne Jaques	Francis Trudel
Edward Johnston	Joseph Tougas
Jaque Latrimouille	John Baptiste Tougas
Francois Lognon	Francois Vachette
Joseph Lognon	Jean Baptiste Vaudrye
James Lacroix	Jean Baptiste Vaudrye, Jr.
Pierre Laforest	Francois Vigo
Antony Luneford	Alexander Vallee
Charles Languedoc	Antoine Vaudrye
Jaque Lamoite	Jean Baptiste Vilnay
Andrez Languedoc	Nicolaus Charpard
Renez Langlois	Angelique, the widow of
Joseph Lavrond	Etienne Puillibert
Louis Laderoute	Mary Louise, the widow of
Francois Languedoc	Nicholaus Perrot
Louis La Marc	Felicite, the widow of
	Francois Pettier

Louisa, widow of
Andre Pettier
Angelie, widow of
Francois Masinet
Marie, widow of
Nicolaus Cardinal
Susanne, widow of
Pierre Coder
Marian, widow of
Louis Denorgon
Marie, widow of
Toussaint Denorgon
Veronique, widow of
Gillione Daperon
Francise, widow of
Ambrose Dagenet
Genevieve, widow of
Pierre Grimare
Ann, widow of
Moses Henry
Catarin, widow of
John Baptiste Lafontaine
Maudelin, widow of
St. Jean Lagarde
Veronie, widow of
Gabriel Legrand
Marie Louise, widow of
John Phillip Marie Legras
Louisa, widow of
Antoine Lefevre
Cutrine, widow of
Amable Lardoise
Maudelin, widow of
Joseph Stone
Genevieve, wife of
Joseph Labulsiere (The
husband deserted)
Renee Godere, dit Hannah Agate,
widow of Amable Dumay

Accompanying this list there are detailed reports telling who was whose neighbor. For example:

"For Joseph La Bussere, #1. A piece of land one arpent in breadth from the hills to the Mississippi in the Prairie du Pont, between L'Amberet and Peltier. #2. A piece of land one arpent in breadth and the same in length joining Chardon on the northeast and Courville on southwest".

Or such a tragic suggestion so placidly put as this:

"Philip Engel. #1. Four hundred acres of land at the place called Sugar Loaf whereon he had made an establishment but was interrupted by the savages before 1783."

The records of the State Department on Public Lands have been edited by Clarence Edwin Carter and volumes 8 and 9 of this series cover Indiana Territory.

I am informed by the Director of the Indiana State Library that there are in that Library histories of every county in the State. This library also has indexed the U.S. Census records of Indiana for 1820 and 1830. It is also compiling mortality records and this material is being assembled by counties arranged alphabetically. This index has been completed through Gibson County.

There is a Genealogical Section in the State Library where one may consult a large and constantly increasing collection of valuable material.

Always, of course, there are the county court records. In

Indiana these have been kept more or less carefully in different counties. About two thirds of the counties have County Historical Societies which may give assistance to the genealogist.

From the foregoing remarks it becomes evident that any attempt to identify an individual who went west in the beginning of the nineteenth century must be pursued with patience and intelligence if an accurate result is to be obtained. Those men who went over the mountains and down the streams in search of fertile fields were not much concerned with keeping records for posterity. One slight clue that may help to determine his identity is to be found in a study of the origin of names. If he is a Campbell or a McMillen or a Glen he very probably came from Virginia via Kentucky. If he is a Rechner or a Trotsman or a Lostutter, he even more probably came from Pennsylvania. If he is a Dufour or a Duprez or a Siebenthal he will belong in the Swiss settlement. If he is a Mellette, a Languedoc or a Gamelin, he belongs in the Vincennes District. However, this key does not unlock all doors. In that long list of 142 names of heads of families in Vincennes in 1782 practically every name is obviously French or a literal translation from French (as Joseph Stone, very probably a close relative of the family named Perron). There is one name, however, that stands out in bold relief. In Vincennes in 1782 there lived one Moses Henry. Obviously Moses was in the wrong pew. It would be a nice job for a genealogist to find out who he was and just how he happened to be there at that time.



Kentucky admitted to the Union in 1792. Indiana admitted to the Union in 1816.

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